

memorandum

DATE: March 24, 1982

REPLY TO: Jerl N. Prince, Tribal Development Officer
ATTN OF: Jack Naylor, Superintendent
Through:

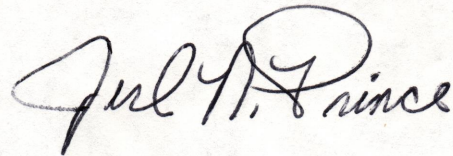
SUBJECT: Miami Agency history since 1954, as per telephone conversation

TO: Federal Archives
ATTN: Jeanette Ford

Enclosed you will find a newspaper article published about the time of Mr. E. E. Lamb's retirement as Area Field Representative; also, enclosed is a picture of the first Agency office located about twelve miles from our present Agency Office.

Mr. E.E. Lamb was Supervisory Field Representative from 1954 to 1961. Mr. T. J. Perry was Supervisory Field Representative from 1961 to 1964 and Area Field Representative from 1964 to 1965. In 1964 the Quapaw Area Field Office became the Miami Agency and in 1965 Mr. Perry became the Agency Superintendent. Mr. Perry retired in 1976 and Mr. Jack Naylor became Superintendent in September of 1977.

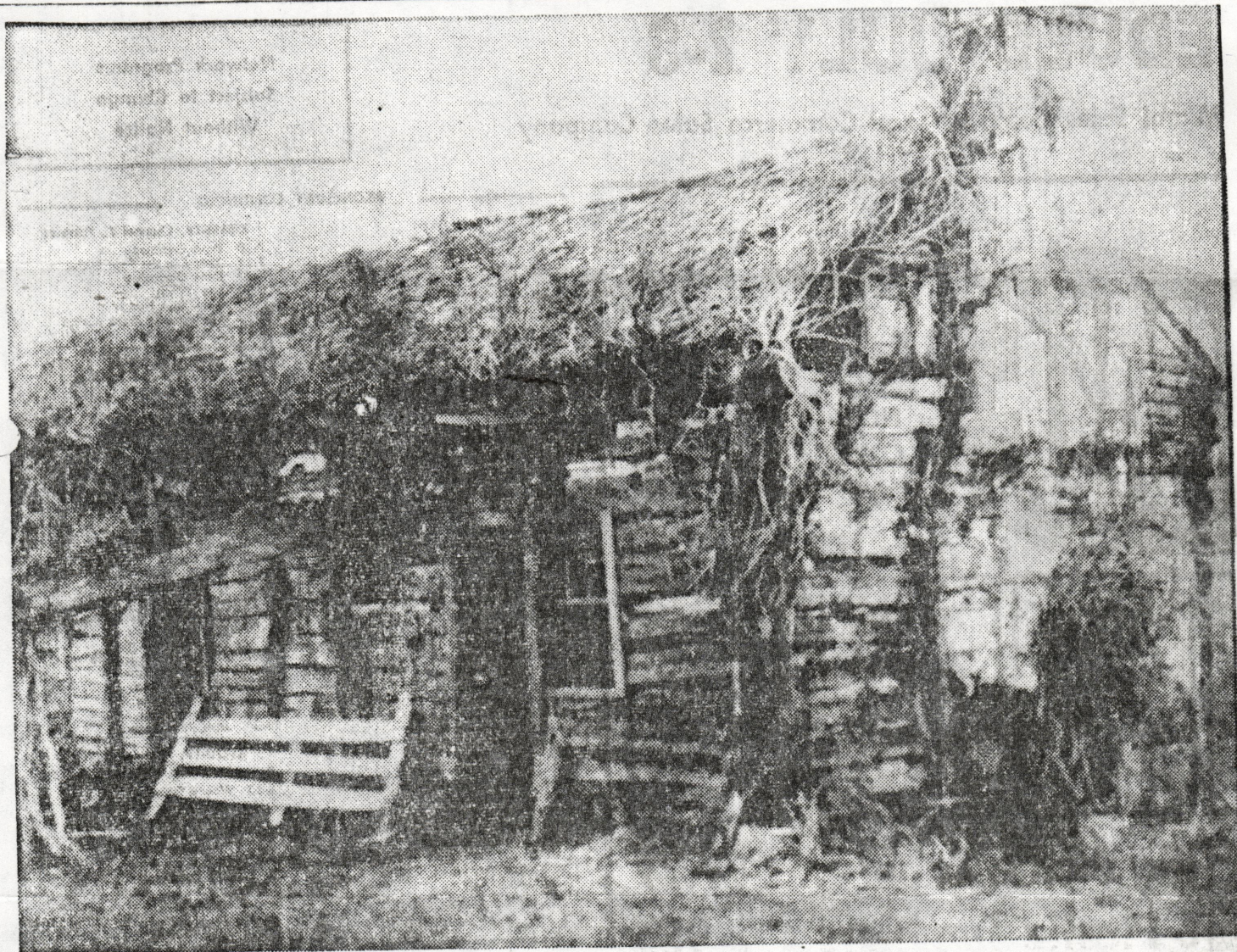
During our telephone conversation your inquired about Mr. H.A. Andrew's tenure as Mayor of Miami. The Chamber of Commerce has recorded that he was Mayor from the 1st. Monday in May 1959 to the 1st. Monday in May of 1961. Mr. William H. Wilson and A. H. Maytubby were Realty Officers in the 1950's and early 1960's.



Enclosures: 2 newspaper arttricles

SUNDAY, JULY 2, 1961

MIAMI DAILY NEWS-RECO



This building, located near Seneca, was the first in what was to become Northeast Oklahoma to house an Indian agency. Built in 1854, it was a center of governmental Indian affairs for a period spanning 14 years.

Moccasin Telegraph

BY VELMA NIEBERDING

Especially for and About Indians

"I have no plans now except to get in some fishing, but I think I'll stay in Miami. I love this town and its people." Thus E. E. Lamb commented on his retirement from the Indian service, effective Friday.

Lamb, supervisory field representative of the Quapaw area field office, has held that position since March 1, 1954, when he succeeded H. A. Andrews, who had held the position since 1930.

Working for the Bureau of Indian Affairs with its constantly changing politics is never an easy job, Lamb observed, adding that he has liked every minute of it.

"No other office has quite the combination of problems that we have here," he added. "The combination of several tribes and their trust lands; mineral and land leases as well as welfare problems is quite a challenge to any supervisor."

Seven counties are under the Miami office, Ottawa, Delaware, Craig, Mayes, Nowata, Rogers and Washington.

The Quapaw agency has had a varied history through the years. It has been the Neosho Indian Agency, The Shawnee Indian Agency and the Seneca Indian School Agency. An agency has existed since territorial times when members of eight remnant tribes were brought to Indian Territory. These were the Quapaw, Eastern Shawnee, Peoria, Modoc, Wyandot, Miami, Seneca and Ottawa. During the years policies and even the designations of tribes have changed. For instance in 1934 the Senecas became Seneca-Cayugas and the Seneca-Shawnees were designated simply as Eastern Shawnees.

Until 1947 the superintendent of the Indian agency, whatever its location, also was the superintendent of Seneca Indian School. For a long time heads of the office were army men. After 1916, the great Quapaw mineral wealth and the attendant problems of managing it made it necessary to move the agency to Miami.



E. E. LAMB

The term "Quapaw Area field office" has been in effect since 1947 when much of the business of the local tribes was concentrated in the Muskogee Area office. This occasioned much inconvenience to tribes here, and one of the recommendations of the recent pilot study in Oklahoma headed by W. W. Keeler has been to restore the Miami office to its original status.

Since 1945, Lamb had the added responsibility of assisting the Quapaws in the making of a roll and other problems that arose in connection with their Arkansas claims.

Another "headache" was the controversial bill HR 108 passage in 1953, making it the policy of Congress to terminate as rapidly as possible all Indians from government supervision. It became necessary for meetings to be held in this area, contacting all tribes to advise them of the new policy.

"Sometimes we held as many as

three meetings a day with tribal leaders," Lamb recalled. Most Indian tribes have consistently resisted termination until certain obligations the government has with them have been fulfilled, but in this area, the Wyandots, Ottawas and Peorias were terminated by 1956.

Lamb began his work with the Indian department at the Ponca Indian agency in 1923. At that time it was known as the Whiteagle Indian agency. He went through a series of transfers from 1923 to 1934 which included assignments to Concho, Okla., with the Cheyenne-Arapaho, and to Calumet, Geary and Clinton. During this time he was working in extension and credit work. In 1945 he was detailed to work with the Five Civilized Tribes and stationed at Bull Hollow in Delaware county. At this time the Cherokees had a cattle association, and Lamb supervised this in addition to the land and credit extension work.

In 1947 he went to Okmulgee to work until 1954 when he assumed the supervisory position at the Quapaw area office in Miami.

Lamb was married Aug. 12, 1919, to Miss Lena Mae Holiday of Gueda Springs, Kan. The couple has three children, Mrs. Noram Jean Spurlin of Wichita, Lloyd V. Lamb who is vice president of the bank at Beggs, and Victoria M. Ketch, Stillwater.

The Lambs live east of Miami and have no definite future plans. No successor has been announced for the position Lamb leaves.

Miss Mabel C. Collins, stenographer at the local office, has been transferred to the position of branch relocation aide at Okmulgee Area field office. Miss Collins held her Miami position three years, and the transfer represents a promotion in the Indian service.

A farewell party was given Lamb and Miss Collins by the office force Wednesday.

Lamb had one parting remark as he finished packing his personal papers Friday: "I don't think Oklahoma has a more worthy cause than working for the Indians. There are as yet many, many unsolved problems to be worked out before they attain the status they need in handling their own affairs."

Portuguese arrived in Angola in 1482 and for centuries regarded the African land only as the reservoir of a profitable export — slaves.